

life of Dick, I, too, would like to pay tribute to this remarkable man and friend.

As the managing editor of the Montrose Daily Press for 31 years, Dick's work ethic was the stuff of legend. According to his colleagues, Dick never missed a day of work in his thirty plus years as managing editor. Often, Dick could be found reading reports off the press wire as early as 4:00 in the morning. Dick's unwavering dedication to the Daily Press has been described by those who worked under his leadership as "legendary" and "inspirational." Such accolades seem befitting a man who was widely recognized to be one of Colorado's most accomplished journalists.

As a native of Grand Junction and graduate of Grand Junction High School in 1958, Dick returned to the Grand Valley after leaving the Montrose Daily Press to become the special sections editor of the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel. In this capacity, Dick served with the same distinction and dedication that he had so readily demonstrated in his time with the Daily Press. And as was the case with his time at the Daily Press, the quality of Dick's work brought widespread acclaim both to himself and the Daily Sentinel.

Although his professional accomplishments will long be remembered and admired, most who knew him well will remember Dick Day, above all else, as a friend. It is clear that the multitude of those who have come to know Dick as a friend, including myself, will be worse off in his absence. However, Mr. Speaker, I am confident that, in spite of this profound loss, the family and friends of Dick Day can take solace in the knowledge that each is a better person for having known him.

**LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
FOR ROBERT SHERMAN**

**HON. LOIS CAPPS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 25, 1999*

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share with my colleagues the award for Lifetime Achievement that was presented to my remarkable constituent Bob Sherman by the Alumni Associations of the University of California, Santa Barbara. Bob Sherman, UCSB Class of 1947, has had a phenomenal record of success as a national and international senior tennis champion. He has won more senior tennis titles than all but one other player ever. Over the past thirty-five years there have been only a few in which he did not win a national or international championship. As recently as 1996 he won the singles Grand Slam. Yet in our hometown of Santa Barbara, he is better known as a very popular tennis pro and instructor who is eager to work with students of all ages.

Bob Sherman remains active and competitive, with many lifetimes of achievement remaining in his wonderful career. He is a member of the UCSB Athletic Hall of Fame and is a testimonial that excellence can be achieved at every age, and therefore an example to us all. I am proud to join my friends at UCSB in recognizing Bob Sherman's on-going lifetime of achievement.

**IN HONOR OF THE PROMOTION TO  
MAJOR OF CAPTAIN JOHN F.  
"JACK" DROHAN**

**HON. JIM NUSSLE**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 25, 1999*

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to say a few words in tribute to USAF Captain John F. "Jack" Drohan. Captain Drohan is currently serving as the Chief of Acquisition Career Management Policy working for the Under Secretary of Air Force Acquisition in the Pentagon. Tomorrow, February 26, 1999, Captain Drohan, a loyal and dedicated Air Force officer, will be promoted to the rank of Major. With this promotion, he was also selected for attendance at the Air Force's Intermediate Service School.

After completing his B.S. degree in Aerospace Engineering at the University of Florida, Captain Drohan was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Air Force on May 2, 1987. He served at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio where he received a M.S. in Engineering Management from the University of Dayton. Captain Drohan also served in the Air Force's Education with Industry program for 10 months with Tracor Aerospace in Austin, Texas before serving at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio. Captain Drohan is also a distinguished graduate of Squadrons Officer School and has represented his squadron at the Top Tech Air Force Instructor Competition.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Captain Jack Drohan on his promotion to Major, and extend to him my best wishes for continued service to the Air Force and our great country.

**TRIBUTE TO MACK WILLIE  
RHODES**

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 25, 1999*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a pillar in my hometown, Mr. Mack Willie Rhodes of Sumter, South Carolina. An African-American great great-grandfather, Mr. Rhodes has been a champion in his community for many years. He is continually offering his assistance to neighbors, friends and family in many capacities. Mr. Rhodes is the oldest member of Melina Presbyterian Church, where he has worshiped since 1915. Mr. Rhodes is an Elder in his church and was a Sunday School Superintendent for many years. He also taught Sunday school at the Goodwill Presbyterian Church and has been a member of Masonic Lodge Golden Gate No. 73 since 1948.

Mr. Rhodes was born in Sardinia, South Carolina, on February 25, 1898 to Robert and Olivia Williams Rhodes. Mr. Rhodes is the second oldest of 15 children. Family, good values, and good living are Mr. Rhodes' most cherished possessions.

At an early age Mr. Rhodes married Annie Elizabeth Hammett Rhodes (deceased). They

had 14 children: Calvin Oliver Rhodes, John Tillman Rhodes, Adranna Olivia Cooper, Susanna H. Hannibal, Annie Elizabeth Muldrow, Hattie Jane Burgess, Mack Willie Rhodes, Sam J. Rhodes, Daisy B. Sims, Willie Rhodes, Albert Rhodes, Viola Rhodes Montgomery, MacArthur Rhodes, and Paul Rhodes. Mr. Rhodes later married Mrs. Carrie Smith Rhodes (deceased), who brought two children to their union: Maggie and Johnny Smith. He is affectionately known as "Papa" by his 7 children (9 deceased), 41 grandchildren (5 deceased), 41 great-grandchildren (2 deceased) and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

Mr. Rhodes' favorite pastime is reading the Bible, newspapers and magazines. He also enjoys watching baseball, the news, and news related programs on television. He still takes time to visit the sick in his community to offer any assistance he may be able to provide. His favorite Bible scripture is the 23rd Chapter of Psalms. Mr. Rhodes also lives by a motto, "Treat others as you would have them treat you."

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing Mr. Mack Willie Rhodes a prosperous and happy 101st birthday. He is truly a living example of the American spirit.

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

SPEECH OF

**HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 1999*

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in observance of Black History Month.

The United States has officially observed Black History Month every February since 1976. The idea of observing Black History Month must be credited to Dr. Carter G. Woodson, a prominent educator, historian and author, who created Negro History Week in 1926. For over 70 years, each February Americans have been encouraged to reflect upon the contributions that African Americans have made to American life and culture—and to think about the unfinished business this great country faces in addressing what has been referred to as America's own original sin—slavery and racism.

The Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History, an organization established by Dr. Woodson in 1915 to promote a better understanding and appreciation of the contributions that African Americans have made to this country, has selected "The Legacy of African Americans in Leadership for the Present and Future" as the theme for this year's observance of Black History Month. Accordingly, I wish to address my remarks today to some of the great African American leaders with which this country has been blessed over its lifetime.

There is no shortage of articulate, influential African American leaders in our nation's history. These individuals influenced both the African American community and our society at large in powerful ways as they fought to win freedom, fair treatment, and better lives for all African Americans.

African American leaders have been influential throughout this country's history—even in

the time of slavery. Brave men like Nat Turner, Gabriel Prosser, and Denmark Vesey, for example, organized and led doomed but valiant slave rebellions against slave owners and the militias that maintained the institution of slavery with force. Abolitionists like Frederick Douglass and Sojourner Truth undermined the institution of slavery by speaking, writing, and lobbying against it—at considerable personal risk. And brave individuals like Harriet Tubman risked their lives and their hard-won freedom to return to slave-holding states to lead other African Americans north to freedom along the Underground Railroad. During the Civil War, over 200,000 African American men fought in the Union Army and Navy—to free their enslaved brethren, to prove that African Americans were as brave and as tough as whites, and to improve the claim of all African Americans to the rights already enjoyed by whites.

In the post-Reconstruction era, African Americans like Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. DuBois, and Mary Church Terrell shaped attitudes within the African American community and won the respect of many white Americans across the country.

In the early 1900s, prominent African Americans like W.E.B. DuBois and Ida Wells-Barnett worked to form the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, an organization dedicated to the elimination of segregation and discrimination. Also in those years, Marcus Garvey led an influential black nationalist movement and fought institutional racism in the United States.

In the 1920s, '30s, and '40s, A. Philip Randolph worked to organize African American workers and end the division of the labor movement along racial lines. He also worked diligently to end discrimination in the military and the government.

And since the end of World War II, African American leaders like Thurgood Marshall, Martin Luther King, Adam Clayton Powell, Jesse Jackson, Colin Powell, and Ralph Bunche have made their mark on American history—in our courts, our schools, our government, our politics, the military, and in foreign affairs. African American women like Fannie Lou Hamer, Shirley Chisholm, and Barbara Jordan broke old barriers and won the respect of millions of Americans for their integrity, their intelligence, their dedication, and their professional accomplishments.

This recitation of African American leaders is by no means all-inclusive. In fact, it touches upon only a few of the African American leaders who have shaped this country's history. Their names are intended merely to document the observation that African American leaders have played an important positive role in our nation's past.

As part of the annual observation of Black History Month, it is instructive to remind ourselves that in the face of racism, discrimination, and violence, many African Americans have successfully taken action to change our society and determine their own destiny within it. I believe that African Americans today can draw great satisfaction and strength from that history.

# A BILL TO INCREASE THE ANNUAL CAP ON STATES' AUTHORITY TO ISSUE THEIR OWN TAX-EXEMPT PRIVATE ACTIVITY BONDS AND TO INDEX SUCH AMOUNTS IN THE FUTURE

## HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 1999

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague from Massachusetts, Mr. NEAL, together with a number of other colleagues, in introducing our bill, "The State and Local Investment Opportunity Act of 1999." The bill would raise the annual cap on states' authority to issue their own tax-exempt "Private Activity" bonds to \$75 times population (\$225 million if greater) and provides for an inflation adjustment based on the consumer price index for calendar years after 2000. The bill would be effective for calendar years after 1999.

A similar bill was introduced in the 105th Congress and was enacted without the indexation provision and the increase in the annual cap is being phased in starting in 2003. Thus, our new bill is the same as last year's bill except for the indexation and effective date. Chairman ARCHER of the Ways and Means Committee was totally cooperative in our effort last Congress, and indeed was key in including our original proposal in the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1998, which the House passed but the Senate did not take up. Nevertheless, the Chairman persisted in including the phased-in provision in the smaller so-called "extender bill" that was enacted.

We believe this change is important to all of us, in that tax-exempt Private Activity Bonds finance affordable ownership and rental housing, manufacturing job creation, environmental cleanup, infrastructure and student loans. Nationwide, demand for bond authority exceeded supply by nearly 50 percent in 1997, according to the National Council of State Housing Agencies. This is a bipartisan issue. Three-quarters of the House supported our bill in the 105th Congress and a majority of the Senate cosponsored identical Senate legislation. The nation's governors and mayors, other state and local governmental groups, and the public finance community all strongly support full bond cap restoration.

On the possibility that a large tax package moves forward this session, we believe it is important to reconsider the effective date issue, as well as the indexing for inflation going forward.

We urge our colleagues to join us in cosponsoring this important legislation—"The State and Local Investment Opportunity Act of 1999."

## IN HONOR OF CASIMIR PULASKI

## HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 1999

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the millions of Polish Americans, the city of

Chicago, the people of Illinois and citizens of our nation, I rise today in honor of Casimir Pulaski, a patriot and military hero and the Father of the American Cavalry.

While countless words have been spoken and many volumes have been written about Casimir Pulaski's life, I believe this contribution to his native home and his bravery on behalf of his adopted land are immeasurable.

Casimir Pulaski was born on March 4, 1747 in Warka, Poland. He was a valiant fighter during Poland's war of independence from Russia. But for his distinguished service toward freedom and independence on behalf of his people and his beloved Poland, he was forced to flee and became an exile.

He remained a voice for just causes and an unwavering spirit for freedom. That is why he joined in America's struggle against the colonists and fought along side General George Washington during the Revolutionary War. He was named brigadier general and the first commander of the American cavalry. For his bravery and service, he was bestowed, and rightly so, the title of "Father of the American Cavalry."

He paid the ultimate price for his convictions and was fatally wounded during the Battle of Savannah.

Casimir Pulaski is an American hero, who fought for freedom, with honor and courage. As we commemorate this legend, I also wish to recognize the countless accomplishments and great contributions of Polish Americans to our nation.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE DEATH TAX ELIMINATION ACT

## HON. JENNIFER DUNN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 1999

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, it's been said that only with our government are you given a "certificate at birth, a license at marriage, and a bill at death." Today I am introducing the Death Tax Elimination Act, which seeks to phase-out the onerous death tax. The death tax rates will be reduced by 5 percentage points each year until the highest rate bracket—55 percent—reaches zero in 2010. As these rates are lowered to zero, more and more families will no longer be forced to give the family savings to Uncle Sam and the family business will be saved. In an era when the productivity of American workers is creating huge budget surpluses, it is incomprehensible for this tax to live on. The death tax deserves to die.

One of the most compelling aspects of the American dream is to make life better for your children and loved ones. Yet, the current tax treatment of individuals and families at death is so onerous that when one dies, their children are many times forced to sell and turn over more than half of their inheritance just to pay the taxes. It takes place at an agonizing time for the family; when families should be grieving for a loved one with friends and relatives, rather than spending painful hours with lawyers and bureaucrats.

By confiscating between 37 percent and 55 percent of an estate, the death tax punishes